REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 43-86 are pending.

In the Office Action of January 30, 2003, the Examiner rejects claims 43-86 as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner cited claim 83 as having an active layer on a common plane without the recitation of any associated laser diode structure and failing to define the common plane with respect to the active layer, stating it is not clear how the active layer is connected to the common plane. By this Amendment, recitations to the common plane have been eliminated.

The Examiner also found the recitations of a fast axis and a slow axis to be indefinite as no element or structure defines the fast axis and the slow axis. By this Amendment, the claims have been amended to specify that the fast axis is the y-axis, not the x-axis. In addition, in the laser arts, the fast axis and slow axis are well known terms. With laser emitting elements arranged along an x-axis, the fast axis is perpendicular to the plane of the laser bar. For this reason, the y-axis is the fast axis and the x-axis is the slow axis.

The Examiner also stated that the claims fail to define the structural relationship to inactive layers, the correction optics and the row of emitter elements and any collimator optics forming the fast axis collimator and slow axis collimator. The claims state that the correction optics follow the row of emitter elements in the beam direction. The elements are not physically attached. The Examiner also stated that the claims failed to define a clear structure defining how the fast axis collimator and the slow axis collimator are configured. The fast axis collimator and slow axis collimator may be separate, as shown in Figure 1, or may be integrated into a single element as shown in Figure 14. The Examiner stated that the claims failed to define how the at least one correction optics are related to the at least one row of emitter elements and the collimators. The claims state that the correction optics are spaced from the emitter elements and that the correction optics form the slow axis and fast axis collimators.

The Examiner rejected claims 43-86 as being anticipated

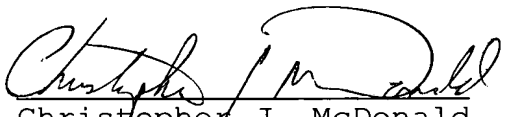
by Krause et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Each of the claims state that the correction optics are formed into segments individually adjustable from one another. Krause et al discloses a laser bar arranged in the XZ plane with emitter elements spaced along the x-axis, the slow axis. A plurality of fast axis collimators 6 are each formed by one cylindrical lens extending along the x-axis. Each laser bar has its own fast axis collimator which is not segmented but common for all laser emitted elements for the laser bar. Krause et al does not disclose a fast axis collimator segmented in the manner claimed.

The claims are allowable over the prior art and favorable action is eagerly and earnestly solicited. If any additional issues remain, and the Examiner believes a telephone conversation would resolve such issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

A three month extension of time accompanies this response. If any additional fees are due and owing, the Commissioner is authorized to charges Deposit Account 08-2455.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. 41,533

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